

**Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes, July 19, 2007  
Medal of Honor Hall  
California Department of Veterans Affairs  
1227 O St., Sacramento, CA 95814**

**Participants**

**DVBE Advisory Council Members**

Robert Brown, Gene Farnsworth, Don Gonneville, Manuel Gonzales, Bob Mulz, Kevin O'Connor, Michael O'Connor, Ken Shoemake, Francis Trottier, A.J. Wilson.

**California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA)**

Ralph Cansimbe, Manager, Outreach and Education Veterans Services Division; Bob Beamer, DVBE Outreach Coordinator, Veterans Services Division; Stewart MacKenzie, DVBE Outreach Coordinator, Veterans Services Division.

**Department of General Services (DGS)**

Eric Mandell, Manager, Communications & Outreach; Gloria Anderson, Manager, Office of Small Business & DVBE Services; Lori Okamoto, Communications & Outreach Coordinator.

**Absent DVBE Advisory Council Members**

Gary Herbold, Floyd Know, Michael Johnson, Timothy Voors and Robert Yaap.

**Guests**

Copy of guest sign-in sheet is available upon request.

Standing Committee Meetings:

Legislation, Procurement, State Agency and Outreach – 8:30-10:00a.m.

- **Welcome and Introductions 10:00 a.m.**

Jack Kirwan announced he is leaving his position as Chief of Veterans Services to take the position of Deputy Secretary of Operations here at CDVA. He introduced Sheryl Schmidt as his interim replacement. Sheryl will carry the title of Deputy Secretary of the Veterans Services Division. Sheryl has been with the Department for 11 years. Jack also introduced Marty Keller the Director, Office of Small Business Advocate in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Mr. Keller's assistant, Michael Gonzales.

- **Approval of Minutes 10:05 a.m. ~ April 12, 2007**

Motion: Manuel Gonzalez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Bob Mulz ~ Passed

## **Business Items**

- **GLAVC Veterans Homes Update - 10:10 a.m.**

### **Robert Johnson, CDVA Director, Capitol Development & Construction Division**

- GLAVC, New Homes, and Yountville
  - CDVA is still working to improve the DVBE participation numbers with Amoroso and Barnhardt, the contractors at the Los Angeles and Lancaster homes.
  - The Department of Finance (DOF) is supporting significant infrastructure projects at the Yountville home including: updating, renovating, and improving the facility. The sewers, cold water and telecomm will also be modernized.
  - Design and Build bids are on the street for the two new California Veterans Homes at Redding and Fresno. Construction is slated to start by the end of 2008. The Redding home will have 150 beds and is estimated to cost 75 million. The Fresno home will have 300 beds and the estimated cost is 145 million.
  - Sixty per-cent of these projects are funded by USDVA grants.
  - Bonding requirements for the smaller DVBE's are a major impediment because they are required as part of California contracting law.
  - Extraordinary efforts will be made by CDVA to increase the DVBE participation in these projects.

- **DGS Update: - 10:25 a.m.**

### **Gloria Anderson, Manager, Office of Small Business & DVBE Services**

- **Proposed Legislation**
  - SB159 - Would include a DVBE among the entities to whom penalties are payable under CA prompt Payment Act.
  - AB608 - This bill would increase the maximum percentage of the bidding preference to 10% for small businesses, mico and nonsmall businesses that provide for small business and Microbusiness subcontractor participation.
  - AB655 – SB's, MB's, and nonsmall business contractors that commit to SB or MB participation for contract under the Bonds Acts of 2006, shall be eligible for additional preferences not to exceed 15%, if they commit to hiring at least 20% of their employee workforce from California residents who are currently eligible to receive, or are currently receiving unemployment benefits.
  - AB 761- Requires DGS to establish a goal of 25% for participation of small businesses in the construction of the state's infrastructure, as provided in specified infrastructure-related bond acts of 2006.
  - AB1189 – requires an awarding department verify a firm's status as a certified DVBE.
  - AB1400 – Requires the Trustees of the CSU and the Regents of the UC to submit an annual report to the DGS on SB/DVBE participation.

## **The DVBE/SB Online Certification System – 11:25 a.m.**

### **Lorna Brisco, Manager, DGS SB/DVBE Compliance**

Lorna mentioned the new DGS online certification system has helped increase the Small Business and DVBE certified numbers by 17%. There is a new and revised SB/DVBE paper application.

- New applications for SB/DVBE certification is Phase I
- Phase II – On-line Renewal Process of existing SB/DVBE's will begin in May.
- Certification will be for one year with the ability to renew 90 days prior to expiration.

## **Update on Advocate Meetings and Outreach Events: 11:15 a.m.**

- **Bob Beamer & Lori Okamoto**
- Other Conferences
  - Folsom Veterans Fair, August 3-4
  - Elite DVBE, West Point, August 8-10
  - Navy Gold Coast, San Diego, August 14
  - California Construction Expo (CalCon), Los Angeles, August 16
  - SDVOB Conference, Albuquerque, August 30
  - CalTrans, San Bernardino, September 12
  - Small Business Exchange, Long Beach, September 13
  - Collaboration Conference, San Diego, September 20
  - CPUC En Banc, Los Angeles, September 25
- Advocates Workshops
  - Attendance continues to improve as Management continues to become more supportive in many departments.
  - Also, OSDS has started a campaign to improve utilization of the SB/DVBE option.

## **LUNCH— 12:00 p.m.– 1:00 p.m.**

## **Business/Discussion Items**

- **Committee Reports- 1:00 p.m.**
  - Council may vote/take action upon committee recommendations (5-10 minutes per Standing Committee)

No Reports.

- **Council Forum: Member Reports- 1:30 p.m.**

No reports.

- **Public Comments – 2:30 p.m.**

(Limited to three minutes per speaker, the Council will not comment)

No Comments

- **Closing Remarks & Next Meeting Dates- 2:55 p.m.**

- Don Gonneville
- October 18, 2007 at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, 1227 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Adjournment – 3:00 p.m.**

Any questions, please contact:

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